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Agilent Ref: 400120065-1 United States Application Serial No. 10/632,600

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- 1. (Currently Amended) A method of removing laser debris from a laser-scribed substrate surface, said method comprising:
 - (a) providing a fluid comprising insoluble particulates;
- (b) contacting said substrate surface with said particulate-comprising fluid having a pH above the isoelectric point of said substrate; and
- (c) [[(b)]] ultrasonically or sonically agitating said-particulate-comprising fluid in contact with said substrate to remove laser debris from said substrate surface.
- (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said particulate-comprising fluid is nonacidic.
- 3. (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein said fluid has a basic pH.
- 4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said particulate-comprising fluid comprises particulate ranging in size from about 15 nanometers to about 500 microns.
- 5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said particulate-comprising fluid comprises particulates in a concentration ranging from about 1 % to about 99 % by volume.
- (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein said particulate-comprising fluid comprises particulates in a concentration ranging from about 1 % to about 50 % by volume.
- 7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein sald particulate-comprising fluid is agitated at a frequency ranging from about 20 kHz to about 200 kHz.
- 8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said particulates and said fluid have

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substantially the same specific gravity.

- 9. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said fluid is chosen from water, toluene, ethanol, acetone, acetyl nitrile, dichloromethane, water with calcium chloride and water with lithium chloride.
- 10. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said particulates are chosen from silica, metals, metal oxides, synthetic polymers, natural polymers, ceramics and fossilized silica deposits.
- 11. (Original) The method of Claim 10, wherein said particulates are elastic.
- 12. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said substrate is laser-scribed glass.
- 13. (Original) The method of Claim 12, further comprising producing an array of probes on said modified laser-scribed glass substrate.
- 14. (Original) A method of modifying a laser-scribed glass substrate surface, said method comprising:
- (a) contacting said laser-scribed glass substrate surface with a particulate-comprising fluid; and
- (b) ultrasonically or sonically agitating said particulate-comprising fluid to modify said laser-scribed glass substrate surface.
- 15. (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein said particulate-comprising fluid has a pH above the isoelectric point of said laser-scribed glass substrate.
- 16. (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein said particulates are synthetic polymers.
- 17. (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein said particulates and said fluid have substantially the same specific gravity.

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- 18. (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein said particulate-comprising fluid is non-acidic.
- 19. (Currently Amended) A method of modifying a substrate surface, said method comprising:
 - (a) providing a fluid comprising insoluble synthetic polymers:
- (b) contacting said substrate surface with [[a]] said synthetic polymersemprising fluid; and
- (c) [[(b)]] ultrasonically or sonically agitating said synthetic polymersemprising fluid to modify said substrate surface.
- 20. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 19, wherein said synthetic polymer-comprising fluid has a pH above the isoelectric point of said laser-scribed glass substrate.
- 21. (Original) The method of Claim 19, wherein said substrate is laser-scribed glass.
- 22. (Original) The method of Claim 19, wherein said synthetic polymer and said fluid have substantially the same specific gravity.
- 23. (Original) The method of Claim 19, wherein said synthetic polymer-comprising fluid is non-acidic.
- 24. (Currently Amended) A method of modifying a substrate surface, said method comprising:
 - (a) providing a basic fluid comprising insoluble particulates;
- (b) contacting said substrate surface with [[a]] said basic, particulatecomprising fluid; and
- (c) [[(b)]] ultrasonically or sonically agitating said basic, particulatecomprising fluid to modify said substrate surface.
- 25. (Original) The method of Claim 24, wherein said basic particulate-comprising

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fluid has a pH above the isoelectric point of said substrate.

- 26. (Original) The method of Claim 24, wherein said particulates are synthetic polymers.
- 27. (Original) The method of Claim 24, wherein said particulates and said basic fluid have substantially the same specific gravity.
- 28. (Original) The method of Claim 24, wherein said substrate is laser-scribed glass.
- 29. (Original) A substrate modified according to Claim 1.
- 30. (Original) A method for producing a biopolymeric array, said method comprising:
 - (a) modifying at least one surface of a substrate according to Claim 1 to provide a modified substrate; and
 - (b) producing an array of probes on said modified substrate.
- 31. (Original) A biopolymeric array produced according to Claim 30.
- (Original) A method for producing a biopolymeric array on a laser-scribed glass substrate, said method comprising:
- (a) modifying at least one surface of a laser-scribed glass substrate according to Claim 1 to provide a modified laser-scribed glass substrate; and
 - (b) producing an array of probes on said modified laser-scribed glass substrate.
- 33. (Original) A method comprising exposure of a biopolymeric array of Claim 32 to a sample and performing a binding assay with said biopolymeric array.
- 34. (Original) A method comprising, following exposure of a biopolymeric array of Claim 33 to a sample, reading said biopolymeric array.

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- 35. (Original) A method comprising forwarding data representing a result of a reading obtained by the method of Claim 34.
- 36. (Original) The method according to claim 35, wherein said data is transmitted to a remote location.
- 37. (Currently Amended) A device for modifying a substrate surface comprising a particulate-comprising fluid according to Claim 1, said fluid contained therein having a pH above the isoelectric point of said substrate, wherein said device is capable of ultrasonically or sonically agitating said particulate-comprising fluid.
- 38. (Currently Amended) A system for modifying a substrate surface, said system comprising:
- (a) a device capable of ultrasonically or sonically agitating a fluid contained therein; and
- (b) a particulate-comprising fluid according to Claim 1 for use with said apparatus having a pH above the isoelectric point of said-substrate.
- 39. (Original) A kit comprising:
 - (a) fluidic medium:
 - (b) particulates for use with said fluidic medium; and
- (c) instructions to combine said fluidic medium and said particulates to produce a particulate-comprising fluid for use in the method of Claim 1.